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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-seventh session
DECLARATION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY ON THE AERIAL AND NAVAL MILITARY ATTACK AGAINST THE SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA BY THE PRESENT UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATION IN APRIL 1986

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-seventh year

Letter from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter addressed to you by the Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation concerning the United States President's announcement of renewed economic sanctions against the Great Jamahiriya.

I request that you circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under the item entitled "Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986", and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Ali Sunni MUNTASSER
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Letter from the Secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation addressed to the Secretary-General

The United States President has taken an arbitrary decision to renew economic sanctions against Libya on the grounds that it "encourages terrorism".

The People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation considers this step to represent an escalation of offensive measures and a deliberate attempt to harm the Libyan people and undermine its economic and social development. It also considers the step to be incompatible with the principles of international law, the purposes of the United Nations and relations between States.

This move on the part of the United States - at a time of improved international relations and reduced tension, when nations and peoples are endeavouring to solve the various issues before them by peaceful means and calling for productive economic cooperation among the various States and economic and political communities - no longer represents an appropriate manner in which to solve the problems afflicting our contemporary world, which looks forward to security, peace and development.

The United Nations is now more than ever called upon to make serious endeavours to halt the use of pressure for the purpose of inflicting hunger on peoples and threatening their security. These measures are incompatible with Article 1, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, which urges international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character, and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms for all. They are also inconsistent with Article 33, paragraph 1, of the Charter, which enjoins the parties to any dispute, the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, to, first of all, seek a solution by negotiation, enquiry or other peaceful means rather than through pressure or economic or political coercion, as emphasized in article 32 of the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, which was adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session in 1974. Under the terms of this Charter, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights. In addition, the measures taken by the United States are incompatible with General Assembly resolutions calling on the industrialized States to refrain from political coercion through the imposition of economic instruments with the intention of bringing about changes in the economic and social systems of other countries, as well as in their internal or foreign policies.

In drawing your attention and that of the international community to the gravity of these deliberate coercive measures against the Libyan Arab people - constituting as they do a serious violation of all international charters and conventions - we hope that you will take whatever measures lie within your power and the authority entrusted to you.

(Signed) Ibrahim Muhammad BISHARI
Secretary of the People's Committee
of the People's Bureau for Foreign
Liaison and International Cooperation